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Abies Englemanni, Parry. In the higher Alpine regions, about Alpine prairies, etc. A stately tree of small diameter, growing so densely in its peculiar habitats, that no trunk can fall to the ground alone. Circular areas of an acre or two are frequently seen in the Alpine heights where the entire growth has been prostrated and lies a labyrinth of trunks that have apparently fallen in every direction, evidently caused by the action of a circular wind, no effects of which are to be seen outside of the prostrated areas. This tree in fruit, etc., much resembles *A. Menziesii* of the coast region, and is probably no more than a high mountain form of it.

Abies Menziesii, Dougl. This tree abounds in the coast regions to a limited extent where it fruits abundantly. It is not known to be of much importance to the country.

Taxus brevfolia, Nutt. Grows nearly or quite upright and attains a diameter of a foot or over, but is low and scraggy, with spreading, drooping limbs. The foliage is bright green and ornamental. It is used for fence posts chiefly on account of its durability, but it is scarce and of no great value to the country on that account. The berries are red and edible when ripe in September.

Juniperus communis, L.. var. *alpinus*, Parl. This is a trailing form of the species, never rising from the ground but trailing and rooting from its limbs, forming large clumps 10 to 20 feet in diameter. Occurs at the limit of trees on Mt. Hood.

Cupressus Nutkanus, Hook. A low branching shrub in the Alpine regions of Mt. Hood. Identification doubtful.

Thuja gigantea, Nutt. Called cedar by the inhabitants. Is a tree of average size and height, 1 to 4 feet, generally 2 to 3 feet in diameter and 60 to 150 feet high. Inhabits the mountain ranges, reaching the Williamette valley at some localities. It is much used for shingles and split boards, being remarkable for straightness of grain and facility of splitting, often to very long lengths of even proportions. It is a valuable tree, but now nearly all the region where it plentifully abounds has been run over by the fires and it only exists as dead, blackened stumps, standing or prostrate, soon to be lost to the country. This destruction of forests in Oregon by fire seems to have been recent. The huge standing or prostrate dead trunks, now almost universal in the Coast range and over large areas of the Cascades, testify to the millions the country has lost by this destructive element.—Elihu Hall, Athens, Ill.

Bryological Notes; by C. F. Austin.—Didmyodon Wollei (*Barbula ? Wollei*, Aust., Bot. Gazette, March, 1877).—Plantæ dense cæspitosæ, fragiles saturate virides; caule erecto subsimplici, foliis siccitate subcrispatis madefactis subcirrhatis subcanaliculatis vel apice excepto planiusculis paulo undulatis margine planis minute papilloso-crenulatis apice pugioni formi-acutatis, costa percurrente, vel brevissime excurrente haud lutescente; flores et fructu ignoti.

Rocks in a ravine, near Bethlehem, Pa., *Rev. F. Wolle.*

Somewhat intermediate between *Barbula cæspitosa* and *Didymodon cylindricus.* From the former it differs in its longer stems, rather broader less carinate less undulate and more fragile leaves, not uniformly recurved-patent when moist, less pellucid at the base, and with the costa neither pellucid when moist nor shining on the back when dry. Very near the latter, but differing in its more robust habit, shorter and broader leaves rather less pellucid at the base and more or less contracted at the apex into a dagger-shaped canaliculate point.

Atrichum Selwyni, *n. sp.*—*Ab A. angustato* proximo differt; foliis latioribus subspathulatis plerumque obtusis basi excavatis, costæ lamellis solum 4–6 altioribus, *calyptra lævissima.*

North West Coast of British America, 1875, *Macoun.*

Stems about ½ inch high. Leaves lanceolate-oblong, subspatulate, mostly obtuse, the base excavated, the lamellæ of the costa 4–6, broad; otherwise they are about as in *A. angustatum.* Inflorescence diœcious; male plant not seen. *Calyptra perfectly naked*

The capsule is rather shorter than usual in *A. angustatum*, otherwise it is much the same.

Bartramia Macouni, *n. sp.*—Plantæ subrobustæ (magnitudine *B. pomiformis*), cæspites sat densos molles pallide cineraceo-virides formatæ; caule unciali et longiore flexuoso-erecto fasciculatim ramoso inferne parceradiculoso; foliis mollibus in siccis laxe subcirrhato-crispatis in humore strictiusculis erecto-patentibus undique vergentibus longe lineali-lanceolatis leviter carinatis facie superiori indistincte papillosis, margine leniter incrassato inferne subrecurvo planove superne argute serrato, costa longe excurrente dorso apicem versus subserrata, reti perminuto quadrato-rotundo, basilari paululum latiori lineari ferrugineo, perichætialibus 2–3 multum minoribus angustioribus erectis; capsula in pedicello 6–8 lineas longo exserta globosa siccitate subhorizontali et leviter striata, parietina mollissima e cellulis oblatis rotundisve inflatis pellucidis formata, annulo nullo, operculo depresso-conico obtusissime mammillato; peristomii dentibus sat rubris solidis latis tæniato-subulatis integris lævissimis crebre (circiter 25) articulatis humiditate in conum conniventibus, ciliis paululum latioribus brevioribus luteis subdicranis lævibus subnodulosis, ciliolis longioribus et brevioribus solidioribus angustissimis rufescentibus; sporangio libero: florescentia synoica; flore adspectu laterali perminuto, organis genitalium utriusque sexus paucis, paraphysibus paucissimis.

Vancouver's Island, May, 1875, *Macoun.*

Near *B. Œderi* (Gunn.) Swartz in general appearance, but it is really a very distinct species, as a comparison of the above description with the following notes will show:—*B. Œderi*, is somewhat smaller in size and usually of a ferrugineous or fuscous green color. The stems are very radiculose below; leaves more distant, much shorter, more rigid, strongly recurved whenmoist, more carinate, very stronglyrevolute on the margin, still less distinctly papillose above, the cells mostly paralellogramoid; capsule dark colored and strongly ribbed when dry, of a much more solid and opake texture, the cells oval and somewhat larger; peristomal teeth a little less solid, not so closely articulated, more suddenly narrowed above the base, not so even on the margin, less fragile, the ciliæ rather more perfect; sporangium not free; flower larger; perichætial leaves like the stem-leaves; paraphyses many times more numerous and very conspicuous.

Dicranum Macouni, *n. sp.*—Plantæ sat dense cæspitosæ, pallidæ, stramineo-virides vel subalbescentes; caule strictiusculo erecto subsimplici fere ad apicem breviter rufo-tomentoso, foliis subsecundis a basi anguste lanceolata sensim longe subulato-acuminatis semiconvoluto-concavis leniter falcatis lævissimis integerrimis vel apice extremo obsolete serratis, costa tenui sub apice finienti, reti minutissimo cellulis a basi usque ultra medium angustissimis linearibus, illis versus apicem multum brevioribus duplo latioribus subovalibus discretis, illis inflatis ad angulos paucis luteis spatii inter marginem et costam vix ultra dimidium occupantibus: sterile.

Peace River, 1871. *Macoun.*

Readily distinguished from all its congeners by its smooth and entire leaves, with a very light costa and with long and extremely narrow cells.—About the size of *D. albicans* and *D. Sauteri.*—The leaf-cells are much narrower than in any other species known to me.

Dicranella Canadensis (Mitt.) *Cynodontium Canadensis*, Mitt. *in the Jour of the Linn. Soc.* 8, *p.* 17.—Size of the plant, capsule, peristome, etc., precisely as in *D. varia* (which probably accounts for its being generally overlooked) The shape and position of the leaves however are quite different—more as in *D. squarrosa.* However, in texture they are nearer to the former species. In D. Canadensis the perichætial leaves are like the stem-leaves in size, position, etc., (semivaginal at the base and recurved-spreading); in *D. varia*, on the contrary, they are diminished in size, erect, not vaginal, at the base; furthermore the leaves of the latter are every way like those of *Leptotrichum tortile.* Mr. Macoun has found both *D. Canadensis* and *D. varia* on Vancouver's Island. Of the latter species he has sent me a fine specimen; but of the former only a small fragment, which appears to have got accidentally mixed with *Barbula unguiculata.* It is probable that this moss is not rare in the North West.

FISSIDENS HALLII, *n. sp.*—Statura facieque *F. incurvis*, statim dignoscitur tamen foliis margine crenulatis haud limbatis, operculo longius rostrato (semper?) calyptra vix ad basim rostri producta basi haud fissa etc.—Capsula erecta, pedicello mediocriter longo, florescentia dioica, plantæ utriusque sexus immixtæ.

Texas, *Hall.*

FISSIDENS INCURVUS (W. & M.) SCHWGR, var. LONGIPES.—Differt a forma normali pedicello ratione cauli longiore, antheridiis 1–3 nudis in foliorum axilis eparaphysatis, etiam in eodemque caule cum pistillidiis paraphysatis apicali.

On the ground, Vancouver's Island, 1875, *Macoun.*

FISSIDENS INCURVUS var. MONOICUS. (*F. monoicus*, AUST. *in litt. ad* SULLIV., 1869.) Habitu, foliatione, etc., normali sed florescentia *F. bryoidis.*

On a moist red shale bank of the Black River, at Vleet-Town, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, August, 1877. (Matures in July and August.)

The var. SYNOICUS (*F. synoicus* Sulliv.) matures its fruit late in autumn. It grows on limestone banks and rocks along streams. (Haverstraw, Albany, Watkin's Glen, &c., in New York, also Canada and Ohio.)

The var. MINUTULUS (*F. minutulus* and *F. exiguus,*) SULLIV. matures in summer. It occurs only on stones in damp places, shaded ravines, about springs, etc. (*F. Closteri*, AUST. may be looked for wherever this var. occurs; it matures in August.)

The var. CRASSIPES (*F. crassipes* WILS.) is found in somewhat similar situations as the preceding var.; but along larger and less limpid streams, and where it is subject to inundation, often for several weeks at a time.

The more normal forms, of this, in some respects, extremely variable species, do not appear to occur east of the Rocky Mountains, except in the Southern and Southwestern States.

F. DECIPIENS DENOT. SULLIV. *Icon. Suppl.* (*F. rupestris* WILS.) Occurs on shaded rocks in mountainous localities, throughout the Middle and Eastern States. I first separated this species from *F. adiantoides*, its nearest ally, by its subterminal fruit and minute leaf-cells, ten years ago, and had kept it under Wilson's name.

It occurs abundantly on trunks of trees in Florida.

F. TAXIFOLIUS HEDW. is common on moist shady banks (never truly on rocks) in the Middle States. Like the preceding species (also *F. adiantoides* and *F. osmundioides*) it matures its fruit late in autumn.

ENCALYPTA MACOUNI, *n. sp.*—Ab *E. affinis* HEDW. *f.* (*E. apophysata* N. H. S.) proxima recedit follis muticis, costa sub apice fliente, capsula (valde immatura) magis-apophysata (sinistram versus leniter torta?) peristomii dentibus brevioribus dimido-angustioribus, calyptra basi elegantissime fimbria, persistente, et al

Stewart's Lake Mountains, June, 1875, *Macoun.*

Calyptra about as large as in the largest examples of *E. ciliata*, light fuscous yellow, (the fringe brown, uniform, narrow and delicate) densely papillose over the whole surface. Pedicel reddish, minutely papillose, rather densely so above the middle, more remotely so below it, slightly twisted to the right in drying. Apophysis at the base of the capsule very large. Peristome single, the teeth of medium length, very narrow and filiform, red, more or less split into two equal segments nodulose and granulose Leaves much crisped when dry, straight and erect when moist, narrowly ligulate, carinate, broadly revolute on the margin, mutic, very opake; the costa ceasing below the apex and densely papillose on the back. Perichætial leaves much smaller and thinner, the innermost scarcely exceeding the vaginula, with a broad subvaginal base and a lingulate, very obtuse apex. Inflorescence monœcious, male flower on a short stalk.

A MOSS NEW TO THE UNITED STATES.—*Pilotrichum undulatum*, Beauv., a West Indian moss. occurs, in a small collection of plants made recently near Fort Reid, on the upper St. Johns, Florida, by Miss E. S. Boyd. The specimens, though scanty, are in fruit. The moss has a general resemblance to small specimens of *Nectera penata*, but the leaves are very inequilateral, and strongly nerved more than half way; and the perichætial leaves, are peculiar, the lower ones ovate-acuminate with squarrose tips, and the upper ones narrowly linear, very slender, and overtopping the capsule. With it were also *Pilotrichum cymtifolium*, Sull., *Leucobryum minus*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, a large sterile *Fissidens*, and the red Louisiana lichen, *Chiodecton rubro-cinctus*, Nylander.—DANIEL C. EATON, New Haven, March 29, 1877.

BOTANICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY ASA GRAY, *Proc. Amer. Acad., Vol.* 12. *December*, 1876.—This contribution to North American Botany is one full of interest. The list of new species is large and principally western, though there is quite a representation from the south. The pamphlet also contains two fine plates, one of *Arctomecon Californicum*, Torr., and the other of a new genus and species *Canbya candida*, Parry. Then follows a description of the new genus dedicated by Dr. Parry to Mr. Wm. M. Canby and a reconstruction of the very rare genus *Arctomecon*, Torr. These genera belong to the order *Papaveraceæ* and are both very peculiar in the persistency of the corolla. The new genus was discovered in S. E. California by a botanical party, consisting of Doctors Palmer and Parry and Mr. Lemmon, May 18, 1876. The new species are supplied by various parties, Rev. E. L. Greene, T. S. Brandegee, Dr. Parry, Dr. Rothrock, and Powell's Expedition of 1875, being the principal contributors. Of course the numbers of the *Astragali* are increased in this case by an addition of seven species and two varieties. The proportions this genus is beginning to assume as our western territory is becoming more thoroughly explored is something startling. A new *Lespedeza* is described, having been found in Minnesota, Illinois and Iowa.

The relations of *Clethra* and *Pyrola* are considered and rather than break up the original *Ericaceæ* into seperate orders, as has been done by DeCandolle and other European botanists, Dr. Gray combines *Clethra* and the tribe *Pyroleæ* into the third sub-order, *Pyrolineæ*. The section *Steironema*, Raf. of *Lysimachia* is restored to generic rank and hence the species of N. United States are as follows:

Steironema ciliatum, Gr.=*Lysimachia ciliata*, L.
S: radicans Gr.=*L. radicans*, Hook.
S. lanceolatum, Gr.=*L. lanceolata*, Walt.
S. longifolium, Gr.=*L. longifolia*, Pursh.

The genus *Asclepias* and its allies are rearranged in the following genera; *Podostigma*, Ell., *Anantherix*, Nutt.(§ 2 of *Acerates* in Gray's Man., 5th Ed.), *Asclepiodora*, Gr. (containing *Acerates paniculata*, Decaisne.), *Asclepias*, L., *Acerates*, Ell., *Schizonotus*, Gr. (containing *Gomphocarpus purpurascens*, Gray, Bot. Calif,), and *Gomphocarpus*, R. Br. A key is also given to the North American species of the genus *Asclepias*. Dr. Gray also gives a conspectus of the confused and difficult genus *Gonolobus*, Michx., with the sections *Dictyolobus*, *Eugonolobus* and *Chthamalia*, the last being reduced from generic rank.—J. M. C.

ON EXCRESCENCES AND EXCENTRIC WOOD GROWTHS IN THE TRUNKS OF TREES.—This is the subject of a communication of Mr. Thomas Meehan to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, December 19, 1876, and appears in the Proceedings, Part III, of that year. The strange excrescences found in so many of our trees have often been the causes of no small curiosity in regard to the cause of their formation. Till very lately these monstrous growths have been referred to insects as their origin. Mr. Meehan calls attention to the fact that these excrescences were often of a uniform